Mr. C. Matthai.—The preparation of books is only some of their minor duties. Their primary duty is the improvement of Malayalam literature.

President.—If a member has served for three years, he should be asked to retire.

Mr. C. Matthai.—But it is desirable to extend his term for the sake of continuity.

President.—There is no difficulty about that, if only those who have a good grounding in Malayalam are chosen. If the same set of men are allowed to continue from year to year, there is a tendency of their getting fossilised.

Mr. C. Matthai.—We have improved the personnel of the Text-book Committee; there are two Members of this Council now.

President.—There may be some Members of this Council who are well-qualified. This must engage your attention, and then, books which are adopted in schools should be revised carefully. The other day objections were raised against portions in the Malayalam text-books, concerning Muslims.

Mr. C Matthai.—I noted all those points in the course of the discussion.

President.—Is it not possible to see that they are open to no objection? Let us not hear any more complaints in regard to the Malayalam Improvement Committee.

The levy of property-tax by the Chittur Municipal Council.

158. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to enquire and state why, of all Municipalities in the State, the Chittur Municipal Council alone levies property-tax on agricultural lands?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The lands in this town are mostly paddy fields, and unlike other Municipalities, there is a large area of them within the town. Hence the taxation.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to consider whether it will be fair to impose this double taxation on this Municipality alone?

President.—In order that all the Municipalities may be treated alike, the only thing open to us is to tax the other Municipalities also. You are right in saying that we are not to show differential treatment to the other Municipalities. The samecustom prevails in British India. For example, in Palghat, the Municipality taxes paddy lands within the Municipal towns. I know this from Mr. Eachara Menon who was the Chairman there.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—We also have got the power inthe Municipal Regulation.

President.—So that will you be amenable to the Government's taxing the other Municipalities? We must either

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abolish the double taxation on agricultural income or impose it on the other Municipalities also.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—This is double taxation on agricultural income.

President.—How is it done in British India? I have particularly noted this question. I asked Mr. Eachara Menon, who was for some time the Chairman of the Chittur-Tattamangalam Municipality what their practice was. He said that was their practice was the same as in Palghat. We are only following the Palghat practice. No doubt, the other Municipalities of our State do not tax paddy lands. So, in order to remove the heart-burning in the Chittur-Tattamangalam Municipality, the other Municipalities may also be taxed.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—No heart-burning on that account; you need not impose the tax on the other Municipalities.

President.—But they may ask why they alone are taxed; while, the other Municipalities are let free. It is really a matter for grievance.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—There was some suggestion of levying the tax in the Trichur Municipality also. We considered the whole question, and at last dropped the idea.

President.—We must be just and impartial. Why should we allow the tax to go on in one Municipality, and not enforce the tax on the other Municipalities? There is the charge of undue preference, and this has to be avoided.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—For the sake of getting uniformity we do not request you to impose additional taxation on the other Municipalities.

The total revenue from the Mattancheri and Rameswaram Villages.

159. Mr. A. B. Salem.—(1) Will the Government be pleased to state the total amount of revenue collected from the town and villages of Mattancheri and Rameswaram for the year 1101 under:—

(a) Land Revenue,
(b) Toddy and liquor licenses,
(c) Foreign liquor licenses,
(d) Opium and ganja licenses,
(e) Salt,
(f) Ferry,
(g) Canal Regulation,
(h) Customs,
(i) Under the Cochin Municipal Regulation by the Municipality,

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